

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a printer, said method comprising:
providing a printer including a plurality of printer operational resources, said printer operational resources comprising core printer operational resources and enhanced printer operational resources;
receiving a resource request at said printer, said resource request including a request for at least one of use and a right of use of a selected at least one enhanced printer operational resource;
operating said printer according to said resource request including at least one of use of and right of use of said selected at least one enhanced printer operational resource; and
initiating a payment transaction based on said operating step, wherein said payment transaction includes a charge calculated as a function of said enhanced printer operational resource request.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein said printer initiates said payment transaction.
3. (Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein said printer includes a consumable element, said consumable element including a processing element initiating said payment transaction.
4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein said selected at least one enhanced printer operational resource comprises enhanced output produced by said printer relative to output produced without use of said selected at least one enhanced printer operational resource.

Amendment and Response UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

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Title: PRINT FOR PAY PRINTER

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4 wherein said selected at least one enhanced printer operational resource comprises a selected printer resolution.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4 wherein said selected at least one enhanced printer operational resource comprises a selected printer throughput speed.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein said selected at least one enhanced printer operational resource comprises access to a selected communication channel.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 7 wherein said selected communication channel comprises at least one of an infrared link and a network link.

9. (Previously Presented) A printing system comprising:

printer control including a plurality of printer operational resources supporting operation of a printer, said plurality of printer operational resources comprising a first resource set and a second resource set;

print job control receiving a request relative to at least one of said plurality of printer operational resources; and

transaction control detecting said request and initiating a payment transaction for said request when said at least one of said plurality of printer operational resources is a member of said second set, wherein said payment transaction includes a charge calculated as a function of said resource request.

10. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 9 wherein said request comprises an incident of use for said at least one of said plurality of printer operational resources.

11. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 9 wherein said request comprises a period of allowed right of access to said at least one of said plurality of printer operational resources.

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12. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 9 wherein said request comprises a request to remove said at least one of said plurality of printer operational resources from said second set and place said at least one of said plurality of printer operational resources in said first set.

13. (Original) A system according to claim 9 wherein said transaction control is located within said printer.

14. (Original) A system according to claim 9 wherein said transaction control generates a use report for delivery to a resource vendor.

15. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 9 wherein said at least one of said plurality of printer operational resources comprises enhanced output produced by said printer relative to output produced without use of said at least one of said plurality of printer operational resources.

16. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 15 wherein said at least one of said plurality of printer operational resources comprises a selected printer resolution.

17. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 15 wherein said at least one of said plurality of printer operational resources comprises a selected printer throughput speed.

18. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 15 wherein said at least one of said plurality of printer operational resources comprises access to a selected communication channel.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of printer operation, said printer having core printer operational resources and enhanced printer operational resources, the method comprising the steps:

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requesting a print job, said print job including use of a selected enhanced printer operational resource;

printing at a printer said print job including use of said selected enhanced printer operational resource; and

executing a payment transaction in favor of a resource vendor as a function of said print job, wherein said payment transaction includes a charge calculated as a function of said enhanced printer operational resource request.

20. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 19 wherein said method further comprises reporting use of said selected enhanced printer operational resource to said resource vendor.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)